

R. R. COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

MEN WHO SECURED RIGHTS OF WAY FOR SOUTH CAROLINA WESTERN ROAD MAKE STATEMENT.

Report Shows an Expenditure of \$81,030.43 out of Total of \$32,000 Turned over to Committee by the City—\$3,164.95 Returned to City—R. M. Aman to Return \$1,000 More if Station is Placed on His Land.

At the recent meeting of Council the report of the committee on securing the right of way for the South Carolina Western Railroad made its report on the expenditures in securing the right of way. As this is a matter of general interest the report is printed in full for the information of the citizens of the county. As will be seen by the report \$32,000 was turned over to the committee by the city, \$20,000 of this amount coming from the city and \$12,000 coming from the county to Council for this purpose, of which amount disbursements amounted to \$31,030.43. Receipts of \$2,764 came from transactions of the committee, leaving a balance in the city's favor of \$3,164.95. The law firm of Lee & Moise did not put in any bill for any of their work, although they did a great deal in looking up titles and preparing the deeds to property, and Council voted to give this firm \$200 for its work, as other attorneys had put in bills and been paid for their work.

The report in full is:

Sumter, Jan. 12, 1914.
Statement by R. I. Manning, Chairman; Neill O'Donnell, H. J. McLaurin, Jr., D. D. Moise and I. C. Strauss, committee in re South Carolina Western Railway.

To the Mayor and City Council of the City of Sumter:

We beg respectfully to report our receipts and disbursements as follows, to wit:

Received from City of Sumter.....\$20,000.00

Received from County of Sumter.....12,000.00

Total.....\$32,000.00

Disbursed, as per statement attached.....\$1,030.43

Balance.....\$999.57

City National Bank.....\$74.84

Bank of Sumter.....\$94.73

Received from Windham property.....2,000.00

Rent of same.....164.75

Sale of buildings.....900.00

\$2,764.75

PAID OUT:

J. N. Phillips, balance 150.00

Mrs. Bell, right of way.....264.12

Expenses.....66.55

L. D. Jennings, for Reardon.....16.00

D. D. Moise, for Reardon.....5.00

Checks outstanding, W. H. Epperson, sheriff.....2.70

A. B. Stuckey, balance.....50.00

W. I. Whitehead.....15.00

569.37

Balance.....\$2,195.38

We hand you herewith check on the City National Bank for \$74.84; check on the Bank of Sumter for \$94.73; check on the First National Bank for \$185.88 and check on the Bank of Sumter for \$2,009.50.

In addition to these amounts we desire to state that under the contract with R. M. Aman for his right of way we paid him \$1,002.50. We have his bond and agreement to return to us \$1,000 whenever the railroad locates a station on his land under the conditions set forth in the contract. Of course, this money if refunded will be paid in to you.

The checks which we hand you represent the unexpended moneys in our hands, and should any bills be presented, which we have overlooked, we will send them in to you.

Very respectfully submitted,

RICH'D. I. MANNING,

NEILL O'DONNELL,

I. C. STRAUSS,

DAVIS D. MOISE,

Committee.

The Citizens' Committee in account with South Carolina Western Railway:

1912—PAID OUT:

March 11—Est. H. Harby.....\$3,350.00

Lella Dick.....361.50

J. K. White.....260.00

Mary Fraser.....1,500.00

D. D. Moise, Attorney.....900.00

Miss Roach and Mrs. Lane.....225.00

M. B. Parham.....350.00

Green & Hill for Westberry.....150.00

Attention to houses, 2.00

8 jurors 2nd case vs. Phillips.....16.90

4 jurors, 2nd

HARMONY BETWEEN NATIONS.

JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTER AMPLIFIES REMARKS.

Talks of Land Laws and Says It is Purpose of Imperial Government to Settle Trouble as Easily as May Be.

Washington, Jan. 24.—Baron Makino, the Japanese foreign minister, has made a supplementary statement to the Japanese parliament to show that according to the Japanese understanding there is perfect harmony of purpose between the United States and Japan in negotiations to settle the California land legislation question.

According to a transcript of his remarks made public by the Japanese embassy here today the minister said:

"It is the purpose of the Imperial government to settle the question in as advantageous a manner as possible, and I believe the American government is taking measures of investigation looking to a settlement by the most just methods."

The statement was made by Baron Makino in answer to a formal interpellation apparently framed to dissipate impressions possibly created by previous intimations that Japan resented the failure of the United States to reply to the late note in regard to the California situation.

Japan is believed to desire a new treaty specifically recognizing the right of Japanese in the United States to hold and lease real property on equal terms with other foreigners. Such a treaty would invalidate the California law, and similar State legislation, but whether the senate would ratify a convention of this character, even if presented, forms another angle to the problem.

HUNTERS ENJOY FINE SPORT.

Come in Private Car of E. D. Hotchkiss, General Freight Agent C. & O. R. R.

Harvin, Jan. 21.—Mr. E. D. Hotchkiss, general freight agent of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad Company, accompanied by his two sons, Mr. E. D. Hotchkiss, Jr., of the Richmond Printing Company, and Mr. H. S. Hotchkiss, secretary and treasurer of the Virginia Bonded Warehouse Corporation, of Richmond, Va., and Mr. Eugene Moses, of the Sumter Lighting Company, Sumter, S. C., arrived at Harvin Monday, in Mr. E. D. Hotchkiss' private car, "Virginia," which was placed on the siding here.

These gentlemen are the guests of Mr. H. B. Harvin and Mr. J. B. Brodson. They came down to spend a week hunting quail. This is not the first time they have visited this section, and they expressed themselves as highly pleased with the game this section afforded on former occasions, and said that the hunting grounds around Harvin were the finest they had ever visited. The only objections that could be raised, they said, was that the birds were getting scarcer every year. They expressed themselves as being greatly in favor of stringent game laws and their proper enforcement.

The News and Courier correspondent was present at an informal reception Monday evening in Mr. Hotchkiss' private car and was most delightfully entertained by these charming Virginia gentlemen, to whom the hospitality of this little community is always most heartily extended.

COLD DRIVES OUT WOLVES.

Child is Devoured by Hungry Beasts—France Feels Icy Hand of Winter.

Paris, Jan. 25.—Deep snows and cold weather are driving great numbers of wolves from the forests. A child was devoured at La Coquille, near Perigueux. Hunting parties are being organized everywhere.

The mercury stood today above the freezing point for the first time in many days. The cold is growing more intense in the districts, however, and the weather bureau sees no immediate probability of higher temperatures.

The cold is likely to prove disastrous to late wheat.

HAYTI'S NEW PRESIDENT.

Successful Rebel Leader Proclaims Himself Ruler of Black Republic.

Port Au Prince, Hayti, Jan. 23.—Gen. Paul, the rebel leader who yesterday captured Cape Hayti was today proclaimed president of Hayti by his followers there. The rebels are preparing for an active campaign against Port Au Prince, intending to capture President Oreste. The United States warship Nashville is at Cape Hayti ready to land blue jackets if foreigners are molested.

Moonshine Still Raided.

Durham, N. C., Jan. 23.—Revenue officers today raided three illicit stills in Lebanon township. Ten thousand gallons of beer and a large amount of liquor were destroyed. The stills were cut to pieces. No arrests were made as the blockaders had fled.

FOREST FIRE AT MANCHESTER.

Number of Buildings Destroyed by Fire—Hunting Club not Yet Opened—Personal News.

Dark Corner, Jan. 21.—Farmers have commenced work for another crop, and some plowing has been done. I think about the same amount of cotton will be planted as was planted last year.

Messrs. Dick Brewer and John Childers have had the "broad grins" for some time it's boys the stork left with them, and Joe Johnston is wearing a smile; it's a girl the stork left with him.

Mr. Jim Kolb and family of Wedgefield visited relatives here last Saturday, returning home Sunday afternoon.

Miss Lizzie Kolb of Wedgefield is spending a few days at Elm Hill with Mrs. W. J. Ardis.

Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Owen of Orangeburg visited at the Sycamores, (Mr. T. H. Osteen's) last Sunday night and Monday, returning home Monday night.

Mr. Blanding Ardis has a child that is quite sick.

Mr. A. S. Weeks' baby has been quite sick, but is better.

Mr. Bill Lackey has been sick, but is better.

Mr. T. H. Osteen seems to be improving slowly from a fall he got awhile before Christmas.

I had to stop yesterday on account of a forest fire that was raging here. I don't know what damage was done, but I know all the buildings, consisting of dwelling, kitchen and smoke house on Mr. Isaac Strauss' Ardis place were burned, as were all the buildings on the George Ardis place, except the dwelling house, which was occupied by Mr. Isaac Geddings. Several of us was up fighting the fire until 11 o'clock last night.

One of Mr. L. E. Ardis' little boys suffered a bad accident this morning. One of his little brothers accidentally stuck a stick in his ear.

Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Geddings of Ramsey visited at Elmhill last night.

The whiskey, or hunting club, is not opened up yet in the "Dark Corner."

It seems hard to procure a house for this purpose. And we don't need "no such a thing nohow." So thinks old "Hard Times."

SUICIDE IN CEMETERY.

J. A. Blackwell, of Darlington, Takes His Life.

Darlington, Jan. 22.—J. A. Blackwell, the third man of this county in the past three months to commit suicide, took his life here today. About 11 o'clock this morning a note was brought to Policeman Weatherford by a negro girl of seven years, and it read:

"Send a doctor to my house first, then send to the cemetery for my body. Good-bye, my darling, I die for you, good-bye. J. A. Blackwell. January 22, 1914."

Immediately upon reading this note Chief Moxingo and Mr. Weatherford jumped into a passing auto and rushed to the cemetery, where they found Mr. Blackwell still alive, but with a bullet hole in his right temple. A doctor was rushed to the scene, but could do nothing, as the wound was necessarily a mortal one, the bullet passing through the brain. Death did not occur until about half an hour after the officers reached there.

Mr. Blackwell was a native of this county and had for years been employed by the Coca-Cola Company of this place, but more recently he had charge of the Gulf Refining Company's local station.

Mr. Blackwell was reported to have been very despondent for some weeks and it is stated repeatedly said that he intended to end it all with a shot.

He is survived by his wife, three children and three brothers, all of whom live in Darlington.

CARLISLE ON PROHIBITION.

Introduces State-wide Bill in the Senate.

Columbia, Jan. 23.—Senator Carlisle today introduced in the senate a bill providing for State-wide prohibition to be voted on by the people of the State.

A State-wide prohibition bill was introduced today in the senate by Senator Carlisle. It provides for an election on State-wide prohibition. This would put the question of whether South Carolina shall go dry or not before the people of the State. The act is made effective in November, following the approval of the governor. Senator Carlisle presented the bill this afternoon and it has not come up yet for discussion.

THE SPEER INVESTIGATION.

Macon, Jan. 24.—When the Speer investigation was resumed at 10 o'clock today it was announced that after today's session the committee would proceed to Savannah where about a week will be spent. The first witness today was W. D. McNeill, a Macon lawyer and relative of Judge Speer.

CADET'S LIFE DESCRIBED.

Midshipman Hammond Bowman of This City Tells of Features of Life at the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis.

In a letter to the Daily Item Midshipman W. H. Bowman of this city, a son of Mr. and Mrs. P. G. Bowman interestingly describes some features of the life of a cadet at the United States Military Academy at Annapolis and military institutions.

Cadet Bowman's letter in part is as follows:

One distinctive feature of our life here is the summer cruise. For the three summer months of June, July and August, the midshipmen embark on a cruise with certain ships, set aside by the bureau of navigation, for that purpose. At the present time these ships are picked from the ships recently put out of commission, but formerly the cruises were made on old sailing ships such as the "Constellation." After the advent of steam as a means of propulsion these ships were laid aside and, more modern vessels brought into play.

South Carolina at present has fifteen midshipmen in the Academy. There should be eighteen and our percentage of vacancies is much smaller than most States, for which we should feel reasonably proud. Of these fifteen men three will graduate this year. These three men all have good records. One of them is Captain of the rifle team, another is editor in chief of the college annual magazine, "The Lucky Bag," and another is one of the star varsity football men. All three have offices in the brigade organization.

The course of studies is principally mathematical and mechanical. It includes all the professional subjects, ordnance, navigation, etc., which will be needed for years after becoming an officer. Graduate midshipmen are eligible to become ensigns or second lieutenants either in the marine corps, coast artillery corps, or regular army.

The record of naval academy graduates from South Carolina is excellent and it is sincerely hoped by the writer that this will be, to some extent, enhanced in future years. With such men as Rear Admiral Victor Blue to set us examples it is certain that we at least have the right to expect something.

Hope that this may be of some use to you. I beg to remain sincerely yours

W. H. Bowman,

Midshipman U. S. N.

WILL ABANDON NORTH.

Likely That Huerta Will Leave it to the Rebels.

Washington, Jan. 21.—Army officers here who have been closely following the Mexican campaigns believe they see signs in recent events of a purpose on the part of the Huerta government to abandon the whole northern tier of Mexican States to the constitutionalists. They suggested today that the movement of the federal troops at Laredo might be really in the nature of an evacuation and that eventually the 2,400 federals near Laredo with the 1,200 at Monterey and the 800 at Ciudad Porfirio Diaz will be concentrated, perhaps at Torreon or Tampico, to form part of the line of defense which the Huerta forces are supposed to be placing across the country from east to west.

On the other hand the army experts think it is essential, for the constitutionalists either to abandon the idea of ultimate success or to press steadily on the South. Reports disclose the beginning of famine conditions in the Northern States as a result of the prolonged rebellion.

VOGEL'S WEALTH FLOWN.

Invested Over Million With Siegel.

New York, Jan. 21.—Frank E. Vogel, once a millionaire meat packer, has only a few thousand dollars to show today for investments of \$1,400,000 made in the enterprises of Henry Siegel, with whom he was co-partner in dry goods ventures, which failed recently. Vogel so testified today, in receivership proceedings involving certain Siegel interests.

On paper of the Siegel, Cooper company, of Chicago, the witness said outstanding liabilities bore his endorsements to the extent of \$1,360,000. The paper is held in this city.

OFF for New York City.

Mrs. L. Atkinson left Sunday evening for New York City and other markets in the interests of the Ladies' Outfitting Company. Mrs. Atkinson is a buyer of ability and her talent in style selection is well known among buyers of women's goods. Mrs. Atkinson will endeavor to have an early spring showing of the new things for women, and expects to make some interesting announcements on her return in a few weeks.

WATCH FOR—Ad of Miss M. C. Jacobs in next issue telling about closing out sale.

Miss Jacobs is retiring from business. Watch for big ad in next issue telling of closing out sale.—Adv.

THE WEEK'S WEATHER.

Varied Assortment of Chills is Scheduled for Country by Weather Bureau.

Washington, Jan. 25.—A varied assortment of wintry weather is forecasted for the country by the weather bureau for the coming week:

"The week will open with generally unsettled weather except in the Northeast, the Central Rocky Mountain region and the extreme Southwest," said the bulletin, "and there will be a moderate cold wave in New England and the Middle Atlantic States."

"A disturbance now over the Plains States will move eastward, attended by rains over the southern districts from the Missouri and the Mississippi valleys eastward, and by somewhat higher temperatures generally, reaching the Atlantic coast Monday night or Tuesday."

"This will be followed by fair weather for a day or two, but another disturbance will cause rains and snows west of the Rocky mountains and their extension east Wednesday, probably reaching the Eastern States Friday."

"It will be followed by clearing weather and more winter temperatures beginning by Thursday over the central portion and by the close of the week over the East. After the rains of Monday and Tuesday in the South fair weather will follow, probably until near the end of the week, and moderate temperatures now are indicated."

THE SPEER INVESTIGATION.

Committee Resumed Hearing This Morning in Savannah.

Savannah, Jan. 26.—The scene of the Speer investigation was shifted to Savannah today. Chairman Webb expects to conclude the hearing this week. Twenty-five witnesses will be examined in Savannah before the committee moves.

Savannah lawyers are now in Washington trying to have a new judge appointed for this district. They urge in admiralty law it is important to have a judge in Savannah and have been working to have Speer retired and a new judge named here.

The probe sessions were resumed at 10 o'clock this morning with Attorney General Thomas Felder, attorney for Col. Huff, as the first witness.

The first witness, A. Lawrence, of Savannah a lawyer told of a difficulty in securing names of jurors drawn for service in Speer's court. He stated that changes were made in the list of names. Judge Speer offered to deal lightly with the defendants if they would plead guilty and the judge's secretary advised the attorney to tell his clients to plead guilty.

Lawrence said Greene and Gaynor, the famous conspirators who robbed the government of large sums were convicted before they even went into the federal court. He declared Judge Speer a misfit and should have been a prosecutor instead of a defendant judge. He said that Speer appointed satellites to fat positions.

FOREIGNERS MAY SEIZE CUSTOMS.

Dictator Huerta Warned of Step Considered by Foreign Powers—Japanese Ship Arrives.

Mexico City, Jan. 26.—It is currently reported here today that Dictator Huerta has been warned that a continued enforcement of the decree suspending the payment of interest on the Mexican National debt will result in the seizure and administration of customs houses by the foreign powers. It is said that this action will be taken with the consent of the United States.

Elaborate preparations are being made to receive officers from the Japanese warship Izuma. Today numbers of Japanese flags are in evidence.

Look in the next issue for big ad of Miss Jacobs. It will interest every lady.—Adv.

SUMTER COTTON MARKET.

Corrected Daily By Ernest Field Cotton Buyer.

Sumter, Jan. 26.

Good Middling 13 1-8.

Strict Middling 13.

Middling 12 7-8.

Strict Low Middling 12 5-8.

Low Middling 11 7-8.

Strict Good Ordinary 11 3-8.

Staple cotton 13 to 15.

New York Cotton Market.

New York, Jan. 26.

Open Close

Jan.12.40 12.34

Mar.12.58 12.56

May12.38 12.35

July12.32 12.32

Aug.12.10 21.10

Aug.12.10 12.10

Oct.11.63 11.63

Dec.11.60

WATCH FOR—Ad of Miss M. C. Jacobs in next issue telling about closing out sale.

Miss Jacobs is retiring from business. Watch for big ad in next issue telling of closing out sale.—Adv.